

U. S. WEATHER BUREAU, FEBRUARY 12—
East 24 hours' rainfall, 00; Temperature, max.
73; min. 65; Weather, fair.

SUGAR—96° Test Centrifugal, 4.9375; Per
Ton, \$98.75; 88 Analysis Beets, 15s 3d; Per
Ton, \$106.20.

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HONOLULU, HAWAII TERRITORY, MONDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 1905.

PRICE FIVE CENTS.

THREE EXPERTS REPORT PUNA AS ALL RIGHT

George R. Ewart, A. Lidgate and J. T. Moir, Experienced Plantation Managers, Make Personal Examinations of Puna Plantation—They Say It Compares Favorably With Olaa, Waiakea and Onomea.

The Puna Plantation is in the hands of a receiver, and is being advertised by him to be sold at auction on February 25, 1905. Whether it will be sold then, however, is problematical. The receivership proceedings were instituted on behalf of the bondholders, last summer, when the plantation was unable to procure advances with which to carry on its business. It will be remembered that at that time the price of sugar was low and the future uncertain. Moreover, Mr. B. F. Dillingham, the principal bondholder, was suffering from severe illness. In order to keep the plantation going it was placed in the hands of Mr. Pfotenbauer, of H. Hackfeld & Co., as receiver, until a decision could be arrived at as to what course was the best for all concerned.

Meanwhile, Mr. Dillingham has recovered his health, and, upon consultation with his fellow bondholders, they have placed the whole matter of the future of the plantation in his hands for a year, with authority to sell, lease or reorganize as he might think best. Mr. Dillingham, with characteristic energy, immediately made arrangements with three of the leading plantation managers, George R. Ewart, A. Lidgate and J. T. Moir, to examine the plantation and give him their unbiased opinions as to its condition and future prospects. These opinions have been received and are of the most favorable character, as will be seen from the reports themselves, which are printed herewith.

These reports, together with the high price of sugar and the treated last summer. Things undoubtedly looked very differently basis from what it was last summer, and Mr. Dillingham has every reason to hope that satisfactory arrangements for the future of the plantation can be made.

In talking to a representative of the Advertiser last Saturday, Mr. Dillingham said:

"I have no criticism to make of the way in which Puna was treated last summer. Things undoubtedly looked very differently then from what they do now. I do not hesitate to say, however, that if I had retained my health, matters would have been different. Puna was then and is now in the same relative position that nearly every successful plantation in the Territory has been in at one time or another.

"Some of the stockholders of Lihue forfeited their shares rather than put up more money and that plantation has since proved a mint. No longer ago than 1892, one of the leading sugar planters, after an expert examination of Ewa, recommended Castle & Cooke to cut it off and not throw good money after bad. When the Hawaiian Agricultural Company's mill lay on the beach, ready for erection, an expert commission recommended that it be sold and the plantation abandoned, and the force and will of one stockholder was all that prevented this being done. Hawaiian Commercial stock once sold at auction for twenty-five cents a share, and it paid no dividends for years. It is only a little over a year ago that Kihei appeared to be on the ragged edge, now it is out of debt and about to pay a dividend. This list of plantations that have once been in the depths, and which are now among the best investments in the Territory, can be extended indefinitely.

"I have had, and now have, complete confidence that Puna is a good proposition and can be made to pay handsomely, but so many injurious and derogatory statements concerning the place have been circulated, that I wanted independent advice concerning the matter. I accordingly requested Messrs. Ewart, Lidgate and Moir, none of whom have any interest in or connection with the place, to make independent and critical examination of the plantation and give me their honest opinion, both for my own information and for that of others interested. I am more than gratified with the results, and shall make every effort to arrive at some satisfactory solution. Notwithstanding the fact that there was two months' practical suspension of work last summer, there is approximately 3,000 tons of sugar now ready to harvest, against which there is only about \$30,000 due the receiver for carrying on the plantation since last August. There will therefore be a handsome cash balance to come to the purchaser from the crop of 1905, if the plantation is sold."

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MAY BE NO CAUCUS OF THE HOUSE MEMBERS

Strong Talk Last Night of Throwing the Fight for the Speakership Into Open Session.

The Fifth District delegation to the House went up in a balloon on Saturday night and now there is a shrewd suspicion that some of the honorable gentlemen would give a good deal for a parachute. It had been said on Friday that there would be a caucus of the House at Republican headquarters this morning at 10 o'clock. The Republican Central Committee, the report ran, would call the caucus. It did not and nobody did. No notice of the meeting of a caucus was sent to the members yesterday.

A member of the House said last night that it was becoming doubtful whether there would be a caucus. "There is no use in having a caucus unless all the Republicans attend," this member said "and I have heard several members say that they were of the opinion that the fight for the Speakership would better be fought out on the floor of the House."

And it is because of the birth of this sentiment that the gentlemen of the Fifth District have been led to the longing for a parachute. Of course their little caucus held on Saturday night, which endorsed Carlos Long for the Speakership, was merely a caucus preliminary to the caucus of the entire Republican party membership in the House. It was no doubt the hope of the four Long men in the Fifth, namely Broad, Kalawaia, Kaleiopi and Mahelona, that their action would point the way, that caucuses would be held in the other districts today following their lead, and that, in effect, it would all be over but the shouting. Incidentally, they probably chuckled because they had bound Oscar Cox and Fred. Waterhouse, willing or unwilling, to Long's chariot wheels.

Well, the Fifth District caucus, as it appeared from indications last night, accomplished none of the things that it was hoped to accomplish. It endorsed Carlos Long. That was all. The pledge to the little caucus could not bind anybody farther than the big caucus. If there is no big caucus, and the Speaker is elected in open session, then Cox and Waterhouse will be free to follow their own sweet will, and it may hold them to Long—and it may not.

It had been hoped by the gentlemen from the Fifth District that their caucus would point the way—and it did not point the way. There was but one caucus held yesterday, that of the Maui delegation, and it failed to agree upon anything. Hawaii did not caucus, nor did Kauai. The delegations from these two islands may meet today. Very probably they will. But there has been no notification to the members of a formal caucus.

It was said last night that the Central Committee would meet today, and at this meeting it may be determined definitely whether there will be a caucus of the House, although the members of the House themselves alone can determine the matter. One thing is very sure, if there is no caucus and the election of a Speaker is made in open session, every member must come out in the open and go upon the record. There will be no possibility of hiding behind closed doors.

Of course, if a general caucus is held, the result of the Fifth District caucus has left Long several votes stronger than he was supposed to be, although the reported failure of Maui to declare for him was probably a disappointment. If there is to be no general caucus, then the Fifth District is up in the air.

Aside from the talk of no caucus, the failure of Maui to agree left the situation otherwise unchanged yesterday. There are still four candidates for the Speakership in the field. Long has the Fifth District, under caucus rule, and four in the Fifth and a possible three in the Fourth if there is no caucus. Harris is an available candidate, one in whom the people who are to be served have the

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THE OFFICERS' CLUB PASSES OUT OF EXISTENCE

The Officers' Club has passed out of existence. It is a case of suicide, though decorously committed. Formed in the days of the Republic to promote sociability among the officers of the National Guard of Hawaii, as well as to extend hospitality to visiting naval and military officers, the club figured largely in the entertainment proffered to the troops going to the Philippines during the Spanish-American war.

Now the Officers' Club is defunct, as the following communication explains: "Headquarters First Regiment, National Guard of Hawaii.
"Honolulu, Oahu, T. H., February 12, 1905.
"Honorable George R. Carter, Governor Territory of Hawaii—
"Sir: In pursuance of my statement to you on the 10th inst., that the

needs of the First Regiment for the purposes of business and instruction and in order to bring and keep the Regiment to the standard required by the War Department, required the taking over of the premises occupied by the Officers' Club in the upper portion of the bungalow, and having received your permission so to do, I notified the Officers' Club to that effect, whereupon, at a meeting held this day, the Officers' Club passed the following resolution:

"In view of the fact that notice has been received from the First Regiment, that the premises occupied by the Officers' Club would be taken over by the First Regiment, that the Officers' Club cease to exist."
"So, from and after this date, the Officers' Club has ceased to exist."
Respectfully,
"J. W. JONES,
"Col. 1st. Regt. N. G. H."

RUNNING DOWN THE LADRONES

Two Captives Released—Czar's Liberal Act Appreciated—Russia Buys Atlantic Greyhound—Macedonian Specter Alarms Turkey.

(ASSOCIATED PRESS CABLEGRAMS.)

MANILA, Feb. 13.—Pressed by cavalry, the ladrones released two children of former Governor Trias.

The skeleton cable reads "Trias two children." A cablegram of January 25 stated that, in a raid by Ladrones on the town of San Francisco, province of Demalabon, the wife and three children of Trias were abducted, and on January 27 it was cabled that they were held for 20,000 pesos of ransom.

RUSSIA BUYS ATLANTIC LINER.

BERLIN, Feb. 13.—Russia has purchased the steamship Deutschland for \$3,500,000.

The Deutschland is one of the largest and swiftest steamships afloat. She belonged to the Hamburg-American line and was built in accordance with the German regulations requiring that all liners be constructed with a view to their becoming auxiliary cruisers. The Deutschland has a speed of 23 knots and is magnificently fitted.

CZAR'S CONCESSION WELL RECEIVED.

ST. PETERSBURG, Feb. 13.—The news that the Czar has endorsed the scheme for the revival of the Zemskyzabor causes intense satisfaction.

JAPAN ORDERS LOCOMOTIVES.

GLASGOW, Feb. 13.—Japan has placed an order here for fifty locomotives.

BAD FIRES TAKE PLACE IN MOBILE AND SEATTLE

MOBILE, Ala., Feb. 13.—The Battle House and other buildings here were burned yesterday, with a loss of one million dollars. One person was killed and several were injured.

SEATTLE, Feb. 13.—The Schwabacher Hardware establishment has been burned. The loss is half a million dollars.

TURKEY EXPECTS TROUBLE.

CONSTANTINOPLE, Feb. 13.—It has been decided to call out the reserves in Macedonia, in anticipation of an insurrection in the spring.

HUNGARIAN AFFAIRS.

VIENNA, Feb. 13.—Kossuth and the Emperor have discussed Hungarian politics together.

ROYAL HEIR HONORED.

LONDON, Feb. 13.—The Prince of Wales has been appointed Warden of the Cinque Ports.

The Cinque Ports, or Five Ports, is an ancient jurisdiction in the south of England. In former days these ports had to furnish England with her navy and in return possessed many special rights and immunities. The Lord Warden is Governor of Dover Castle and Admiral of the Ports. He formerly had great power but now both jurisdiction and office are largely ornamental.

ROOSEVELT AT LINCOLN DINNER.

NEW YORK, Feb. 13.—President Roosevelt will be the guest today at the Lincoln dinner of the Republican Club. Fifteen hundred persons have been invited.

MID-CONTINENT COLD WAVE.

CHICAGO, Feb. 13.—Intense cold prevails in the Mississippi Valley and Rocky Mountain States.